

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Salisbury Named Tree City USA

National Arbor Day Foundation Bestows Honors

Salisbury, NC_April 11, 2008 – The City of Salisbury has been named a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day Foundation. The announcement honors Salisbury's longstanding commitment to community forestry and marks the City's twenty-second year to be named recipient of this national recognition.

Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, the Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. To become a Tree City USA community, a municipality must meet four established standards which include a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance.

"Trees in our cities and towns help clean the air, conserve soil and water, moderate temperature and bring nature into our daily lives," said John Rosenow, Chief Executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Tree City USA designation recognizes the work of elected officials, staff and citizens who plant and care for the community forest. Trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in our cities and towns, and provide environmental and economic benefits. A community, and its citizens, that recognize these benefits and provide needed care for its trees deserves recognition and thanks."

Mayor Susan Kluttz, speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council shares, "We are honored to receive this national award which recognizes Salisbury as a livable, environmentally friendly community; Salisbury places a strong emphasis on protecting the environment and preserving our natural resources. Trees not only enhance property value and beautify our City; they also offer a safe haven for our wildlife. By promoting the importance of trees to our youth, we share the importance of environmental awareness with our leaders of tomorrow."

Arbor Day will be observed during the annual Hurley Park Spring Celebration, held this Sunday, April 13th from 2 pm – 4 pm. Park staff share that the event site is adjacent to Rowan Regional Medical Center and conveniently located off of Lake Drive. Citizens are cordially invited to attend the complimentary event which offers free entertainment, carriage rides and refreshments. The Rowan Master Gardeners and Catawba College Center for the Environment staff will be on hand to assist citizens with gardening and environmental questions.

The City of Salisbury is an equal employment opportunity employer with over 180 different job classifications and 400 full time positions. For more information regarding the City, its services or career opportunities, please visit the Salisbury on the World Wide Web at www.salisburync.gov.

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